

truly exceptional officer, has served our great Nation for more than 20 years and I am proud to call him my friend.

Over the past three years, I have had the honor of working with LTC Fortunato on a variety of issues during his tenure as the Congressional Liaison for all Army Aviation programs. As a fellow aviator, I have come to know and respect Ed and his dedication to his work on behalf of the warfighter. There is no doubt that LTC Fortunato has been instrumental in educating Members of the House Armed Services Committee on Army Aviation programs and initiatives. His tireless efforts working with members of the Committee and staff was singularly instrumental in the successful authorization and appropriation of the Light Utility Helicopter, Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, Joint Cargo Aircraft, Chinook Multi-year, Apache, Black Hawk Multi-year and numerous Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and Aviation Research and Development projects.

My staff and I worked especially closely with Ed on the Joint Cargo Aircraft program, and I am convinced that the success of our Congressional efforts, and the ability of the JCA program to move forward, is in large part due to LTC Fortunato.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank LTC Fortunato for his tireless efforts in the support of Army transformation. His professionalism, expertise, and efforts showcase his patriotism, and his dedication to his fellow aviators and warfighters in the field. LTC Fortunato is a true Jedi Knight.

I want to personally thank LTC Ed Fortunato, his wife Monique and his entire family for their commitment, sacrifice, and the contributions they have made throughout his honorable military service. I congratulate LTC Ed Fortunato on completing an exceptional and extremely successful military career and his dedicated service to our Nation. I wish Ed and his family many blessings and much success as he begins his future endeavors and embarks on new adventures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present for Rollcall votes 434 through 440 and 465 through 470. I was absent on part of the day Friday, June 20th, Monday, June 23rd, Thursday, June 26th, and Tuesday July 8th due to personal reasons.

If I were present I would have voted, "nay" on Rollcall vote 434; "nay" on Rollcall vote 435; "nay" on Rollcall vote 436; "yea" on Rollcall vote 437; "yea" on Rollcall vote 438; "yea" on Rollcall vote 439; "yea" on Rollcall vote 440; "yea" on Rollcall vote 465; "yea" on Rollcall vote 466; "aye" on Rollcall vote 467; "yea" on Rollcall vote 468; "nay" on Rollcall vote 469; "yea" on Rollcall vote 470; "aye" on Rollcall vote 471; "aye" on Rollcall vote 472; and "aye" on Rollcall vote 473.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DOROTHEA E. HOSKINS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to Dorothea E. Hoskins an outstanding daughter of Harlem who recently passed away. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable woman who, over her many years and under much adversity, was an ardent supporter of civil rights, human liberty and a leader in the Postal Service.

The death of Dorothea on June 28, 2008, brought immense sorrow and loss to her family and friends, and to the countless individuals associated with the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees. Dorothea was respected and esteemed by all the members throughout the United States Postal Service where she served as a clerk from 1989 until her retirement from the New York Planetarium Station.

"Dottie" as she was affectionately known, was an inspiration and true symbol of strength and commitment to her church family as a faithful member of St. Luke's Baptist Church for more than 60 years. She was a shining representation of selfless love for mankind, and derived significant gratification from her years of service with St. Luke's, citing the joy of spreading the word of salvation through Jesus Christ to the lost and created support for missionaries throughout the world.

As a staunch supporter of civil rights and human liberties, she served as an Executive Committee Member of the NAACP Mid-Manhattan Branch for over two decades, served on various committees, and frequently chaired Black History Month Programs.

Dorothea also served as a leader by encouraging the exchange of professional knowledge among Alliance members nation-wide and provided long-term service within District VIII of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees while serving as District VIII President from 1990–1992. She achieved so much during the span of her career that her comrades will continue to benefit from her work even as they miss her ongoing presence among us.

Madam Speaker, rather than mourn her passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Dorothea Hoskins by remembering that she exemplified greatness in every way.

GREATER LAKE HOUSTON HEART WALK

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, On June 30th Texans from the greater lake Houston area joined together to participate in The American Heart Association's Greater Lake Houston Heart Walk. The number one and number three killers of Americans Heart disease and

stroke do not discriminate against age, race, or gender.

By raising awareness, encouraging physical activity, and involving the community, participants are empowered with life altering information. Through initiatives like the greater lake Houston walk, the American Heart Association's goal is to not only encourage physical exercise but to also educate the community about circulatory diseases. According to the census bureau, in 2005 over 36,000,000 people reported being diagnosed with either Heart Disease or Stroke.

Participants in the American Heart Association Walks can learn about why it is important to stay healthy, and at the same time contribute to research, advocacy, and public education. Donations raised through sponsorships and citizens alike have allowed the American Heart Association to continue its mission since 1924. In the years 2005–2006 they invested more than \$543 million in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

Perhaps one of the most important means of Heart Disease and Stroke prevention is the regular maintenance of a healthy lifestyle. This measure is especially connected to regular physical exercise as many risk factors are all interrelated to a lack thereof. These include inactivity, excess weight, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

Through educating Americans of risk factors, symptoms, and prevention the hope is to reduce instances of heart disease and stroke 25 percent by 2010. Community involvement in the Greater Lake Houston Heart Walk and others like it encourages others to also become aware of the number one and number 3 killers of Americans. From heart healthy eating to physical activity, learning the means of prevention and passing them along, is the key to these walks' successes.

EXPRESSING THE APPRECIATION OF MARVA ALLEN AND HER CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation for Marva Allen and the Hue-Man bookstore's contribution to the community.

Marva Allen, entrepreneur, author and visionary, became a managing partner/CEO of the Hue-Man bookstore in 2004. Born in Jamaica, Allen earned her degrees in England and the U.S., launched a multi-million dollar computer tech company and built a very successful career in the business world. Her creative ways and fresh ideas for a new business made Hue-Man Bookstore and Cafe a successful project and a crown jewel of Harlem. In addition to being a bookstore, Hue-Man is a cultural and community center.

Marva Allen's focus is the literacy for all. She firmly believes that through her business, she is able to bring and impact change for the community of Harlem. She is a member of various philanthropic organizations, such as LitWorld, that addresses literacy worldwide, St. Hope Leadership Academy, an educational center, and Melvin Van Peebles Foundation,